

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 L-03 SCA-01 SSO-00 H-03 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 INRE-00 /044 W

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O 132235Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 293

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS:

SUBJ:EXPULSION OF ROBERT PLASKER

REF: (A) HECHTMAN-PURDY TELECON

(B) HECHTMAN-HART TELECON

(C) STATE 201893

1. PLASKER WAS ACCOMPANIED SEPT 13 BY CONSULAR OFFICER TO MEETING WITH BERMUDEZ OF CIVILIAN POLICE IN MINISTER OF INTERIOR. BERNUDEZ TOLD PLASKER HE WAS TO BE EXPELLED AND FLASHED COPY OF EXPULSION DECREE, BUT DID NOT PROVIDE PLASKER WITH COPY. PLASKER TOLD BERMUDEZ HE WAS PLANNING TO LEAVE TUESDAY SEP 17 ON BRANIFF FLGT 978 AND ASKED IF THAT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT. AFTER CHECKING WITH SUPERIOR, BERNUDEZ SAID PLASKER WOULD BE RELEASED INTO EMBASSY'S CUSTODY INSTEAD OF BEING DETAINED UNTIL HIS DEPARTURE ON SEPT 17. BERMUDEZ WARNED PLASKER TO AVOID ANY ACTIVITIES DURING THIS TIME WHICH WOULD -PREJUDICE HIS SITUATION".

2. PLASKER ASKED BERMUDEZ IF THERE WERE ANY WAY HE COULD APPEAL EXPULSION DECISION. BERMUDEZ SAID HE HAD NO AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE AND SUGGESTED THAT IF PLASKER WANTED TO APPEAL THAT US EMBASSY SHOULD CONTACT GOC AT HIGHER LEVEL. AT THAT POINT PLASKER TURNED TO CONSULAR OFFICER AND REQUESTED EMBASSY INTERVENE WITH GOC.

3. PLASKER HAS BEEN ADVISED BY CONSUL TO BE VERY CAREFUL

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OF HIS CONDUCT PENDING HIS DEPARTURE. WE HAVE ASKED HIM

TO HAVE AS LITTLE CONTACT WITH OTHER PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY CHILEANS, AS IS POSSIBLE. EMBASSY WILL APPROACH UNDER-SECRETARY OF INTERIOR ENRIQUE MONTERO TO INQUIRE RE REASON PLASKER'S EXPULSION. WE DO NOT INTEND TO PURSUE MATTER FURTHER OR ASK FOR DELAY OR RESCISSION OF EXPULSION ORDER UNLESS DEPT SO INSTRUCTS.

4. FYI: ALTHOUGH WE UNAWARE ANY IMPROPER CONDUCT BY FATHER PLASKER SINCE HE RETURNED, WE ARE COMPELLED TO STATE THAT PLASKER'S CONDUCT IN RETURNING SEEMS TO US TO HAVE BEEN SOMETHING LESS THAN EXEMPLARY. EMBASSY INDUCED GOC TO HOLD OFF FOR WEEKS IN SERVING EXPULSION ORDER ON PLASKER SO THAT HE COULD LEAVE VOLUNTARILY. HE CHOSE TO RETURN KNOWING THIS WOULD CAUSE DIFFICULTY WITH GOC. CARDINAL SILVA TOLD AMBASSADOR TODAY THAT HE WAS UPSET BY PLASKER'S RETURN. FATHER DONOSO, HEAD OF LOCAL HOLY CROSS ORDER, WAS ALSO AWARE THAT PLASKER PROBABLY WOULD BE EXPELLED IF HE RETURNED TO CHILE. IN CIRCUMSTANCES, WE FEEL AN INQUIRY IS ABOUT AS FAR AS WE CAN GO. END FYI.
POPPER

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